



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Paper No. 062504

DOBRUSIN & THENNISCH PC
401 S. Old Woodward Avenue
Suite 311
Birmingham, MI 48009

JUN 30 2004

In re Application of:
John D. Grace
Serial No.: 10/661,146
Filed: September 12, 2003
Attorney Docket No.: 1145-001C1

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c), filed September 12, 2003, to make the above-identified application special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.) § 708.02, Item VI: Energy.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

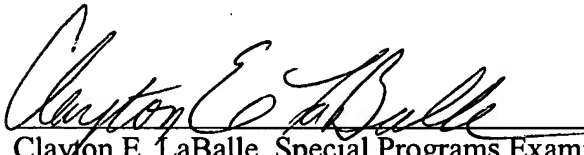
A grantable petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c), and in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VI, for inventions which materially contribute to (A) the discovery or development of energy resources, or (B) the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources, must be accompanied by statements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 by the applicant, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office explaining how the invention materially contributes to category (A) or (B) set forth above. No fee is required for this petition.

The petition asserts that the present invention materially contributes to the development of energy sources; however, the statement accompanying the petition is not sufficient to explain how the invention materially contributes to (A) or (B), as set forth above. The statement sets for that the present invention enhances the computer-based systems and methods available to geoscientists and engineers in the oil and gas industry who are involved in the exploration for and production of hydrocarbon resources. By advancing the technology used for visualization and analysis of subsurface hydrocarbon reservoirs and equipment (e.g., wells), production costs can be reduced and an increased volume of original hydrocarbons in place in an area can be found and produced. Both effects augment oil and gas supply. No clear correlation is made between the invention and contributing to the discovery or development of energy resources, or the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources. The statement merely alleges increased production and reduced cost of known energy resources.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is inadequate to qualify the application for special status under 37 CFR § 1.102(c), and pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VI. Accordingly, the petition is dismissed.

Should petitioner desire reconsideration, petitioner should supplement this petition by a statement providing the information as outlined above. No further petition fee is required. Any request for reconsideration must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the date of this decision.

Inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to Clayton LaBalle at (571) 272-1594.


Clayton E. LaBalle, Special Programs Examiner
Technology Center 2800
Semiconductors, Electrical and Optical
Systems and Components